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Wednesday, November 17, 2010

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Glass blown Christmas ornaments made on Aruba!



Did you know that also in Aruba Christmas ornaments and other objects are blown? Local artist Ciro Abath has a demonstration of glass blowing on Friday, November 26, from 5 – 9 pm. He will make glass Christmas ornaments and other objects in front of the public in his glass studio in Noord.

Glass blowing is an intensive process. Collecting molten glass with a temperature of over 1000 Celsius (2100 Fahrenheit) on a steel blow pipe, adding colored glass frits, blowing, reheating, blowing and making the final loop on the Christmas-ornament: it all can be seen during the demonstration.

Terrafuse opened the first glass blowing studio in the Dutch Caribbean last April. Since then, a lot of locals and tourists visited Terrafuse to watch Ciro and his wife Marian making bowls, paperweights and other glass objects.

During the demonstration, a small Christmas market will be held outside. On this market Christmas ornaments will be available, as well as paperweights, vases from recycled glass, glass beads and other objects.

For more information readers can visit the website: www.arubaglassceramics.com, sent any inquiry at arubaglassceramics@gmail.com or call tel. 922978

"Buki Bum" pays visit to the Minister of Culture

Recently Minister Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar received the 2 authors, Mrs. Desiree Correa and Mrs. Liliana Braamskamp-Erasmus in connection with the book week event and the special project of "Buki Bum".

Parents are encouraged to visit the different community clubs on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 11a.m. and from 11 a.m. to 12 noon accompanied by their children.

Every Sunday a different community center gets a turn.

The project Buki Bum was introduced in 2009 by Funda-



cion Papiamente. It was so successful that this year the

project became official.

Continued on page 4

Some 60 cities to sign worldwide climate pact in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Mexico (AFP) - Some 60 cities from across the globe will this weekend sign a voluntary pact to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Mexico City authorities said yesterday.

"For the first time we'll sign a deal to establish targets to reduce emissions in the atmosphere, which the most important countries in the world have refused to do," said Mexico City mayor Marcelo Ebrard.

Some sixty mayors will sign a document to be presented to a UN worldwide climate conference in the Mexican beach resort of Cancun from November 29 to December 10, said city environment secretary Martha Delgado.

Paris, Seoul, Dakar, Montreal, Porto Alegre and



Stuttgart would be among those taking part in the pact, officials said.

Mexico City will host a world summit of local and regional leaders, including more than 1,000 participants from 90 countries, from Thursday to

Saturday, ahead of a world climate summit of mayors on Sunday.

The climate accord, set to be signed on Sunday, will appear in a public register and on the Internet, Ebrard said.



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MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Senator: US poised to ban caffeine in alcoholic drinks

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US food and drug watchdog is poised to ban caffeine in alcoholic beverages, a lawmaker who has led a campaign to have drinks that combine the two elements outlawed said yesterday.

Senator Charles Schumer of New York said in a statement posted on his website that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is on the brink of ruling "that caffeine is an unsafe food additive to alcoholic beverages."

The ruling would effectively bar from sale in the United States drinks such as Four Loko, which combines alcohol, caffeine, the stimulant guarana and taurine in what Schumer called a "dangerous and toxic drink."

The drinks are marketed mainly toward young people, said Schumer, who has been leading a campaign in New York to have the beverages banned because of what he says are serious risks to health and safety.

According to Schumer, a can of a drink like Four Loko -- named because of its four main ingredients and with a play on the Spanish word for "crazy" -- contain as much caffeine as in two to three cups of coffee and as much alcohol as two to three cans of beer.

Last month, nine students passed out and were hospital-



ized after drinking Four Loko, leading several states and universities across the country to ban or issue warnings about drinks that mix alcohol and caffeine, Schumer said.

In New York, state-run liquor stores have stopped selling the energy-alcohol concoctions, which have also been banned in Michigan, Oklahoma, Utah and Washington and on a number of college campuses.

FDA spokeswoman Pat el-Hinnawy told AFP that the

agency has spent nearly a year studying "the very important issue" of drinks that blend caffeine and alcohol, but refused to comment on whether a decision that would effectively ban the drinks was imminent.

Schumer's announcement came as a study of more than 1,000 US students showed that drinking caffeinated energy drinks on a regular basis significantly increases the risk of becoming alcohol-dependent and engaging in bouts of heavy drinking.

Boeing keeps 787s grounded as fire probe continues

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US aerospace giant Boeing said yesterday it would extend a halt on test flights of its new 787 Dreamliner plane as it investigates a fire that forced an emergency landing last week.

All test flights in the delayed program were halted

last Wednesday after a fire aboard a test plane on Tuesday forced an emergency landing in Laredo, Texas.

"No decision has been reached on when flight testing of the 787 will resume," Boeing spokeswoman Lori Gunter said in a statement.

Two Haitians died in the riots, including one shot by a peacekeeper in an incident that raised fears of further unrest targeting the unpopular United Nations force, which is known by the acronym MINUSTAH.

Six UN peacekeepers were injured in a second protest Monday in the central city of Hinche, near the base of a Nepalese unit accused of bringing the Vibrio cholerae bacterium into the country.

"We are monitoring the situation in other towns where demonstrations were attempted this morning," a police officer told AFP Tuesday on condition of anonymity.

He said Interior Minister Paul-Antoine Bien-Aime and Haitian police chief Mario Andresol would lead a delegation to the north in the coming days to help restore calm.

The cholera death toll rose yesterday to 1,034, the health ministry said, with about

16,800 people hospitalized since the disease surfaced in late October -- the quake-hit nation's first outbreak since the 1960s.

Haitian officials have struggled to battle the disease in a nation still ravaged by a January earthquake that killed 250,000 people and left 1.3 million people homeless.

Officials fear the cholera epidemic could spread like wildfire if it infiltrates squalid camps around the capital where hundreds of thousands of quake refugees live in cramped and unsanitary conditions.

MINUSTAH issued a statement linking the protests to presidential elections in less than two weeks time and calling on Haitians not to allow themselves to be manipulated by "the enemies of stability and democracy."

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Minister Sevinger elaborates a little on the Ring Road 3 project

Sings agreement with Notary Yarzagaray to get the necessary land



Recently, Minister of Integration, infrastructure and Environment, Benny Sevinger elaborated on the Ring Road (Beltway) 3 project. It is so that from 2001 to 2009 the project stayed dormant in the drawers of the ministry. So the minister decided to work on the project. For the last year he is busy with the different aspects, technical as well as legal, and now finally the works are so far that his ministry has signed six (6) agreements with notary Yarzagaray on this project.

Minister Sevinger explained that there are a few exceptions regarding some of the land which must go on auction. The reason is that some of this land belongs to many heirs and it will take a long time to get in contact with all of them. If the process goes thru a judge then they can set a date for the auction and afterwards the heirs can still claim their respective part of the money. But they must claim the money before

20 years has passed.

Minister Sevinger said that according to his judgement, before the end of the year he will finish with the other lands necessary for the project.

The Ring Road is a Private Public Partnership (P.P.P.) project. This means that the government together with the private sector will carry the financial costs. The Netherlands, the Aruba Investment Bank, our local experts of the Public Works Department – DOW as well as the Infrastructure and Planning Management - DIP, and other departments involved in the project will also give their help and advice on the project.

“If there is no setback, the construction will start in July 2011. This Ring Road certainly will help with the traffic flow from Oranjestad to the hotels that is constantly stuck because of the lack of an alternative road,” Minister Sevinger finished saying.

Minister George R.M. Jamaloodin pays courtesy visit his Aruban colleague

This in connection with his new post as Finance Minister of the country of Curaçao

On 10-10-10, the Netherlands Antilles ceased to exist and with this historical date Curaçao became an autonomous country. This brought along a new government for the country under the direction of Prime Minister Gerrit Schotte. Taking into account the good relationship between Aruba and Curaçao, Curaçao Minister of Finance George Jamaloodin paid a courtesy visit to his counterpart on Aruba, Minister Mike de Meza to further enhance the ties between the two countries.

Minister of Finance, Communication, Utilities and Energy, ing. Mike de Meza met with Minister G. Jamaloodin and introduced him to all the other colleagues of Cabinet Mike Eman. Minister de Meza also elaborated on the history of the Government Office, how it was sold to the private sector but was afterwards recovered and repaired to its former glory.

Photos show moments of the visit.



Dutch testing jaw bone found on beach in Aruba

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands -- Dutch forensic experts are testing a piece of bone found on the Caribbean island of Aruba to see if it comes from missing American teenager Natalee Holloway, a spokeswoman said yesterday.

Officials at the Netherlands Forensic Institute confirmed that they have received the bone and are prepared to conduct DNA testing to compare to that of Holloway's.

The Dutch-language newspaper de Telegraaf reported that the bone -- thought to be the lower half

of a human jaw -- was found by tourists Friday on a beach in Aruba. According to the paper, pictures of the mandible show an intact molar.

The Dutch-language newspaper de Telegraaf reported that the bone -- thought to be the lower half

The Forensic Institute said yesterday that the announcement of the findings would be left to Aruban authorities,

Amnesty no longer an option for Tanja,

Tanja Nijmeijer has lost her chance to be given amnesty, "She is a terrorist who has committed serious crimes", Francisco José Lloreda, the Colombian ambassador to the Netherlands said.

Ambassador Lloreda had commented earlier that Tanja was a criminal. Nevertheless, the Colombian government was willing to offer her a way out. Vice President Angelino Garzón said last month that Tanja had nothing to fear if she voluntarily left the FARC. That amnesty offer has now been withdrawn.



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Our donkey sanctuary: a tourist attraction!



Some 15 years ago a small group of volunteers started giving shelter to roaming donkeys. Earlier these animals were the favorite means of transportation, but with the arrival of motor cars they soon became obsolete. And because of all that motorized traffic they became a danger on the road.

Hence, the necessity for a sanctuary.

Nowadays a large group of volunteers takes care of some 100 donkeys. Daily feeding, medical care and offering shelter are the main activities of the Donkey Sanctuary. However, in the course of time, tourists and local people have found their way to the sanctu-

ary. In fact quite understandable, because where else can one find such a large herd of donkeys in their habitat?

All these volunteers are protecting this Aruban heritage.

The doors of the shelter are open daily for visitors who can enter free of charge. The shelter is open during weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and during weekends from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. One can have a drink on a cozy terrace, there is a small shop with donkey-related souvenirs and if you are interested, there is always someone present who can answer all your questions with enthusiasm. A real treat!

"Buki Bum" pays visit to the Minister of Culture

The Buki Bum is a complete package consisting of:

- The workshop "How to read loud with my children: by Mrs. Desiree Correa. It makes parents aware of the importance of reading to children from 0 to 5 years.
- A beautiful bag made of hard material with the logo Buki Bum 2010 printed on it

- The newest picture book "Buchi Beer" by Desiree Correa with illustrations by Ivirgna Hernandez.
- A book of rhymes "Sigui rima rond di Aruba" by Liliana Braamskamp-Erasmus

- CDs with songs and rhymes for children produced by Rachel Kraaijvanger, Zulaika Geerman and Martin Buitenweg
- Flyers with golden tips suggesting to parents how to apply the books at home

- Discount coupons of De Wit & van Dorp and Samson Bookstore
- Book markers to make the process of reading more efficient.

Minister Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar said: "It is never too late to learn to appreciate a book and appreciate reading!"

Both Mrs. Desiree Correa & Liliana Braamskamp-Erasmus published a new book for the Book Festival of 2010.

Minister Michelle Hooyboer, who is also a volunteer for the reading project, "Bon Nochi Drumi Dushi, was very impressed with the 2 new creations and wished "Buki Bum" a lot of suc-

cess.

Congratulations to all the authors, and we wish them more creativity to write many more books for our youth in our own language "Papia-

mento."

The more our children read, the better they learn at school and the more their vocabulary will grow.



Penguins wear Santa Claus costumes

Photo shows penguins wearing Santa Claus costumes at an event promoting an amusement park in Yongin, south of Seoul.

The costume covered birds were all dressed up for a promotional event at the Everland amusement park in Yongin, south of Seoul.

Everland, South Korea's largest amusement park, organized the event for opening of its Christmas festival season.



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Kiwanis Key Club is accepting nominations for “Role Model for Youth 2010”

The newly elected board of the Colegio Arubano Key Club, the youth arm of Kiwanis of Aruba, announced they will conduct their second annual “Role Model for Youth” contest at SETAR N.V. headquarters on Monday, November 15.

Key Club President Aveline Figaroa was joined by Vice-President Devin Quant, Secretary Jasmira Wiersma, Treasurer Jesca Wiersma, Lt. Governor Christoffer Everon and Club Editor Akash Sujun for the press conference. Ballot boxes will be available for submitting names of individuals which island youth feel have made substantial contributions to the community and inspired them to be the best they can be.

The boxes will be located at Bright Bakery in Noord and Amito shop on the main street in Oranjestad beginning on Monday, November 22 until Friday, January 14, 2011. Ballots can be obtained from Kiwanis Club members. Certain rules apply for eligibility:

- The nominee must be a living person, so they may enjoy this recognition
- They must have dedi-



Key Club board and Kiwanis rep Ebby Schwengle

cated at least five years of their time to the community, full or part-time

- A minimum of 25 years of age
- They can be well known or work diligently behind the scenes
- No politicians past or present
- They must be a full-time resident of Aruba
- They must have no arrest record for the past ten years

The nominations will be vetted by a committee consisting of members of Kiwanis of Aruba and made public on January 28. SETAR will set up a website with portraits and qualifications of the nine candidates selected, and the public can cast their vote for their favorite candidate via SMS to SETAR N.V., Aruba's national telecommunication company. Voting will close on March 6, after five weeks; there is an administrative fee for each vote

of approximately .50 Aruban cents. One can vote as often as they like.

“Role Model of the Year 2010” will be announced during the awards event on Saturday, March 12, 2011. For more information about the campaign, visit <http://www.keyclubaruba.org> or their page on Facebook.

The Key Club members expressed that acknowledging those that dedicate their time to the quality of life for the

Aruban community, particularly in establishing sound values for island youth, is rewarding for both the recipient and those for whom they set an example. Role Model for Youth 2009 was Enrique Hermans of Seal Scouting Aruba; Key Club officers are sure there are numerous individuals worthy of this recognition and are proud to have established this tradition.

by Rosalie Klein

Sci-Tech



Visitors inspect the C919 prototype at an aviation exhibition during the Zhuhai Airshow, in south China's Guangzhou province on November 16, 2010. The C919 prototype unveiled on November 16, a single-aisle jet that can seat up to 190 passengers, is China's first large homegrown passenger jet, and is seen as a potential competitor to the Airbus A320 and the Boeing 737. (AFP PHOTO)

Yahoo! to open sites to outside contributors

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Internet giant Yahoo! began opening up its properties to outside writers, photographers and videographers on Monday with the launch of the "Yahoo! Contributor Network."

Yahoo! said the Yahoo! Contributor Network would give freelance content creators access to popular destinations such as Yahoo! News,

Yahoo! Finance, Yahoo! Sports and the Yahoo! homepage.

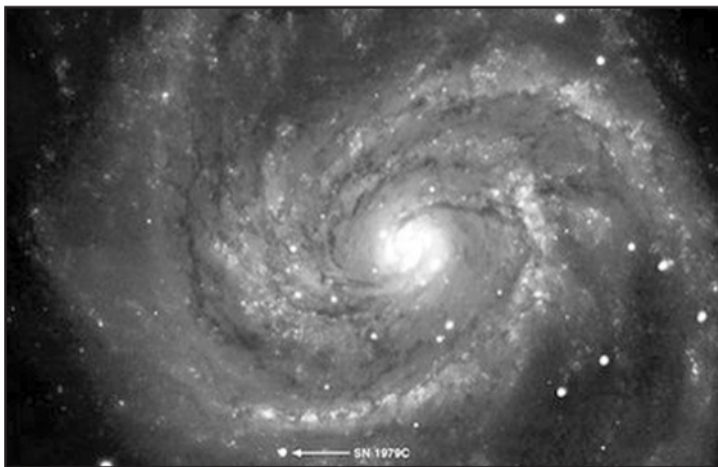
Yahoo! described the network as the "evolution" of Associated Content, a platform hosting 400,000 freelance contributors from around the United States which Yahoo! purchased in May for a reported 100 million dollars.

Chief executive Carol

Bartz said Yahoo! had "re-tooled" the platform "to bring the people's voice to Yahoo!"

"Bringing this authentic perspective to Yahoo!'s most popular sites will deepen our engagement with the millions of people who visit us every day and provide new opportunities for creative contributors who participate in the Yahoo! experience," Bartz said in a statement.

'Baby black hole' offers insight into cosmic enigma



This composite image released by the Nasa on November 15 shows a supernova within the galaxy M100 that may contain the youngest known black hole in our cosmic neighborhood.

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Astronomers on Tuesday announced they had found the youngest black hole ever found in Earth's cosmic neighbourhood, a discovery offering a rare chance to probe one of the mightiest and strangest forces in the Universe.

The black hole is believed to be a remnant of SN 1979C, a supernova in the galaxy M100, some 50 million light years from Earth, which was spotted by an amateur skygazer in 1979.

The supernova itself was a mega-star some 20 times greater than the Sun that col-

lapsed in upon itself before creating a black hole -- a gravitational force so strong that not even light can escape.

As there is no visual clue to a black hole, the phenomenon was spotted thanks to a steady glow of X-ray radiation detected by US and European orbital observatories from 1995 to 2007.

The discovery will give scientists a grandstand view of how a black hole develops from infancy, NASA said.

It could also unlock knowledge about huge stars explode, which ones give birth to black holes or neutron stars, and how many black holes there may be in our galaxy and elsewhere.

Many new black holes have been discovered in the distant Universe, but they have been spotted thanks to a signature blast of gamma-ray radiation.



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Beatles, iTunes come together



WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Beatles finally arrived on iTunes on Tuesday after what Apple's Steve Jobs described as "a long and winding road."

"The Beatles. Now on iTunes," Apple.com announced in large black letters above a full screen picture of the "Fab Four" -- Paul McCartney, John Lennon, George Harrison and Ringo Starr -- from their heyday in the 1960s.

"We're really excited to bring the Beatles' music to iTunes," McCartney said. "It's fantastic to see the songs we originally released on vinyl receive as much love in the digital world as they did the first time around."

The vast catalog of Beatles hits has been barred for years from Internet download sites amid legal squabbles, although their songs have long circulated as unlicensed downloads available from unlicensed peer-to-peer net-

works.

The announcement that the Beatles were making their legal Web debut on iTunes came from Apple Corps, the Beatles' company, EMI Group, their record label, and Apple, maker of the Macintosh computer, the iPod, iPhone and iPad.

After years of badgering, Starr, the drummer and only other surviving member of the band, said he would be "particularly glad to no longer be asked when the Beatles are coming to iTunes."

"At last, if you want it -- you can get it now -- The Beatles from Liverpool to now!" Starr said in a press release.

Lennon's widow Yoko Ono linked the release to this year's 70th anniversary of his birth.

"In the joyful spirit of 'Give Peace A Chance,' I think it is so appropriate that we are doing this on John's 70th birthday year," she said.

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Health & Living**Heart drugs and supplements a risky mix**

Herbal and dietary supplements are found in the aisles of supermarkets and health-food stores rather than behind a pharmacy counter, but they can be dangerous when mixed with the wrong drug.

A new survey suggests that a majority of heart patients taking the popular blood-thinning drug warfarin are risking potentially dangerous complications by combining it with supplements such as fish oil, glucosamine and chondroitin, coenzyme Q10, and multivitamins.

"More and more patients are self-medicating with these supplements," says Jennifer Strohecker, a clinical pharmacist at Intermountain Medical Center, in Salt Lake City. "Many of us will Google something and then go out and try it, and our doctor would never know."

In a previous study, Strohecker and her colleagues found that 9 of the top 10 most commonly sold supplements had the potential to conflict with warfarin. The offenders included St. John's wort, melatonin, glucosamine and chondroitin, and fish oil.

"Even your multivitamin can interact with warfarin," says Strohecker.

Some supplements have the ability to either enhance or negate warfarin's effects, which could potentially trigger one of two dangerous complications: severe bleeding or a blood clot.

"People think that a supplement is always natural and safe," Strohecker says. "They don't realize that the body sees it as a chemical."

Perhaps the most alarming finding of the survey was the apparent communication gap between doctors and patients. Less than one-third of the survey respondents said that their doctors had specifically asked them about supplement use, though nearly all said they would discuss it if asked.

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Way of Life!

Spain seeking donor for world's first leg transplant

MADRID (AFP) - Doctors in Spain are looking for a suitable match from a dead donor to carry out the world's first leg transplant, the health ministry said Tuesday.

The ministry's transplant commission last May authorised Valencia's Hospital de la Fe to carry out the procedure, which will involve both

legs, a spokeswoman said.

If successful, the operation would be the first leg transplant in the world, she said, and could offer hope to millions of amputees and injured war veterans.

"They are looking for a suitable donor. We still don't know the date, it could be in two months or six months, it

all depends on when an adequate donor is found," the spokeswoman said.

The recipient will be an unidentified man who had both legs amputated above the knee after an accident. He faces life in a wheelchair because prosthetic limbs are not suitable for him.

The transplant commis-

sion has also authorised the hospital to carry out Spain's fourth face transplant, the health ministry said in a statement.

"Transplants of hands, arms or faces from dead people were science fiction just a decade ago and today they are a splendid reality at our hospitals," the director of Spain's

National Organisation of Transplants, Rafael Mate-sanz, said at the conference, according to the statement.

Of the 13 face transplants carried out so far around the world, seven were carried out in France, three in Spain, two in the United States and one in China, according to Spain's health ministry.



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Fantasea at the Royal Plaza

Aruba Trading Company and Papiamento Restaurant are ready to welcome the “Beaujolais Nouveau 2010”
Come celebrate its arrival with a fantastic food fair



The organizing team of the Papiamento Restaurant and Aruba Trading Company are ready to welcome the first bottles of the much awaited “Beaujolais Nouveau 2010.” Beaujolais Nouveau is a wine produced with Gamay grapes that grow in the Beaujolais region in France. It is a popular vin de primeur, fermented for only a few weeks and officially launched worldwide on the third Thursday of November. The first bottle of the Beaujolais Nouveau is always welcomed in an extraordinary way with everyone celebrating the end of the harvest season.

This celebration is a beautiful French tradition that evolved into a worldwide event where every year all the most respectable wine houses around the world welcome the first boxes of the Beaujolais Nouveau with much fanfare. Just a few can enjoy this exquisite wine because only a limited quantity is shipped around the world.

This year, Aruba Trading Company – official distributor of Georges Duoeuf wines,

which includes the Beaujolais Nouveau - will be celebrating its arrival on Thursday, November 18 at the Papiamento Restaurant. The historical restaurant with its tropical gardens is the perfect place to entertain all present with a food fair, comprising spectacular dishes made especially to complement the Beaujolais Nouveau 2010.

How the Beaujolais Nouveau 2010 will be arriving at Papiamento Restaurant remains a surprise, but the team of High Performance” will be part of the event and they are ready with all their sound and light equipments to make this event an unforgettable one.

In the past the Beaujolais Nouveau has arrived in a limousine, by horse carriage and with much fanfare, so the question is: How will it arrive this year? So, come see a fabulous show, taste some scrumptious dishes and enjoy the Beaujolais Nouveau 2010 at the Papiamento Restaurant.

For reservation readers may call the Aruba Trading Company at tel. 582-3950.

Bachelor of Law graduates at the University of Aruba



Recently, 10 students of the Law Faculty of the University of Aruba received their diploma of “Bachelor of Laws,” Aruba jurisdiction. The study is of an academic level.

The study of law at the University of Aruba consists of two phases. The first one is a three year study which ends when the students get their Bachelor of Laws degree in Aruban law (LBB) and the second phase consists of a year study which ends when the students get their “Master in Laws” degree Aruban law

(LLM), titled previously known as Master in Law (mr.).

The students who received their diplomas are: Antonio Caster, Roland Dijkhoff, Geraldine Ras, Sylvie Eman, Vanessa Jie-Sam-Foek, Egidio Koolman, Jessica Koolman, Mary-Ann Kock and Angeline Vrolijk-Maduro.

During the joyous occasion dean of the law Faculty of the University of Aruba,

mr. Eric Mijts handed the bachelor degree diploma to each one of the students while mr. Luciano Milliard, LMM recited two beautiful poems.

The students are now following the second phase of their study and hopefully soon they will get their Master in Laws degree.

The ceremony was followed by a small toast for the students and their family members.

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World AIDS Day activities for Aruba announced



UNAIDS representative Ryan Maduro and organizers of World AIDS Day event



Milagros Posner events organizer and Mily Henriquez President of the Women's Club of Aruba

Wednesday, December 1, is the UN designated World AIDS Day, when groups in countries around the globe stage walks and events to spotlight the plight of HIV/AIDS victims and the present statistics regarding the disease.

Ryan Maduro, representing UNAIDS on Aruba, introduced four NGO's which will conduct awareness events surrounding and on World AIDS Day, along with the most recent statistics regarding HIV/AIDS for the world and Caribbean from the Pan American Health Organization, PAHO.

Presently, 33.9 million people are infected with the HIV/AIDS virus in the world. The mortality rate is decreasing, but the majority of reported new cases are primarily young adults. The Caribbean region is second to Sub-Saharan Africa in the largest number of reported cases; these are followed by Eastern Europe and Central/South Asia.

1987 marked the first reported HIV/AIDS case in Aruba; Ruben Odor, before his death, co-founded the organization El Faro (The Lighthouse) dedicated to increasing public awareness regarding those suffering with HIV/AIDS and teaching understanding and tolerance. El Faro is one of the participating groups.

Ryan Maduro explained that even though Aruba has now 489 registered cases of HIV/AIDS, (unofficially, as of 10/31/10-536) this number, as in other countries, likely reflects the "tip of the iceberg" as the majority of cases are not reported because victims are either unaware, since they show no symptoms, or are afraid or ashamed. It is possible this reflects only 10% of the population actually carrying the HIV/AIDS virus.

2010 continues the five-year official theme of World AIDS Day of "Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise" with the sub-theme of "Act Aware." Keeping this sentiment in mind, Michael Kelly, representing the Free-life Bureau of Prevention (FBP) announced that teams from FBP Aruba will circulate through various clubs on the island on Saturday, November 27, distributing condoms and reminding the populace to practice Safe Sex; the only sure way to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and various STD's.

On Sunday, November 28, the Women's Club of Aruba (WCA) is conducting a Harley Davidson Red Ribbon Ride beginning from the D.O.W. parking lot in Wayaca at 3:00 p.m. Participation is 35 Aruban florins (\$20.) and will include stops at various restaurants for refreshment along the way. Beginning at 5:00 p.m. that same day, FPB will conduct a "Pick & Grab" Flea Market at Jimmy's Place in Oranjestad, with music, theatrical productions, a tattoo competition and other fun activities.

Activities on December 1, World AIDS DAY, will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Governor's Mansion in Oranjestad with the annual WCA candlelight walk, titled this year, "Lights for Rights." Inscription is 5 Aruban florins, which includes a logo tee shirt. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. and lasting till 9:30 p.m., well after the walk is over, the organization Pelukeronan Contra AIDS-Hairdressers against AIDS, will offer free haircuts and chair massages out of Cache Boutique in Ponton; they ask those deploying their services leave donations to assist HIV/AIDS victims on Aruba.

The final event will take place on Thursday, December 2 with the opening of an exposition at Insight Art Gallery in Paradera dedicated to the plight of those suffering with HIV/AIDS. "The Art of Living Positive" opens at 7:00 p.m. and admission fee is 5 Aruban florins, which includes wine and snacks. As space is limited, reservations are recommended, and can be made via e-mail at elfaroaruba@gmail.com

by Rosalie Klein

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AIDS Memorial Quilt to be displayed at Monmouth University

WEST LONG BRANCH, New Jersey -- In commemoration of World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, will sponsor a display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

A panel representing The Center in Asbury Park is among the 20 panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt that will be on display at Monmouth University to mark World AIDS Day, Dec. 1. Twenty panels of the quilt will be on display Nov. 30 through Dec. 2, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in Rebecca Stafford Student Center Anacon Hall.

Founded in 1987, the AIDS Memorial Quilt is a poignant memorial, a powerful tool for raising AIDS awareness and the largest ongoing community arts project in the world.



Each "block" of the AIDS Memorial Quilt measures approximately 12 square feet and consists of eight individual 3-foot by 6-foot panels sewn together.

Virtually every one of the more than 40,000 colorful panels that make up the quilt memorializes the life of a person lost to AIDS.

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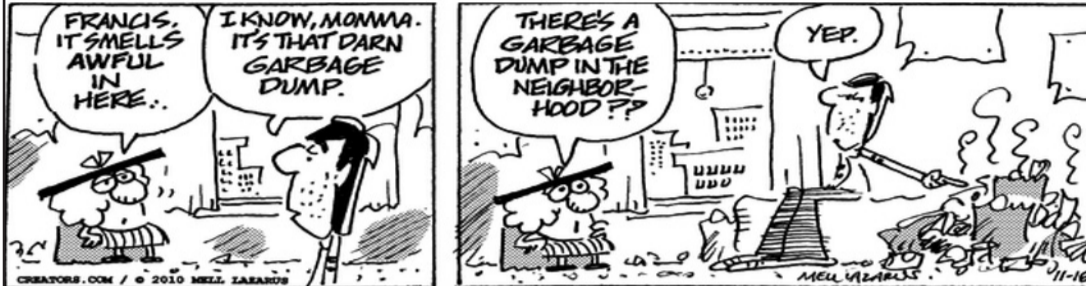
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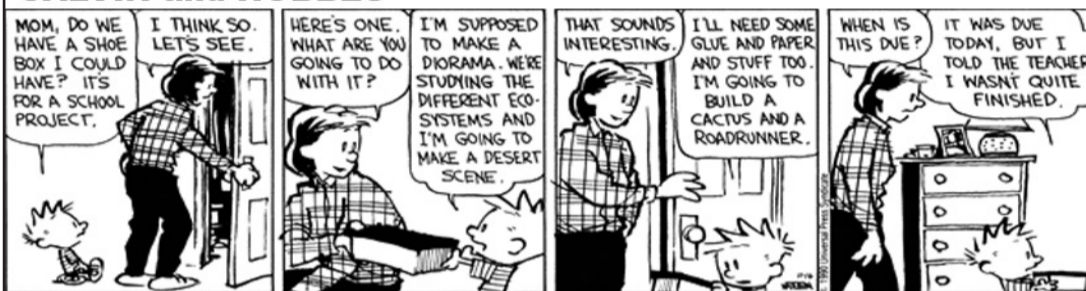
PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



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ACROSS

1. Muslim leader
5. Rough, matted hair
9. One in a deck
13. Shells and bullets
17. Surrealist painter
18. Singer Perry
19. After siete
20. Pact
21. Southeast Asian country
22. Alda or Arkin
23. Candy-bar ingredient
25. Precious stone
27. Gaming cubes
29. TV fare
30. Complete
31. Centers
32. Rebuff
34. Brag
37. Partner
38. Detail
39. Loiter
42. Author Ayn

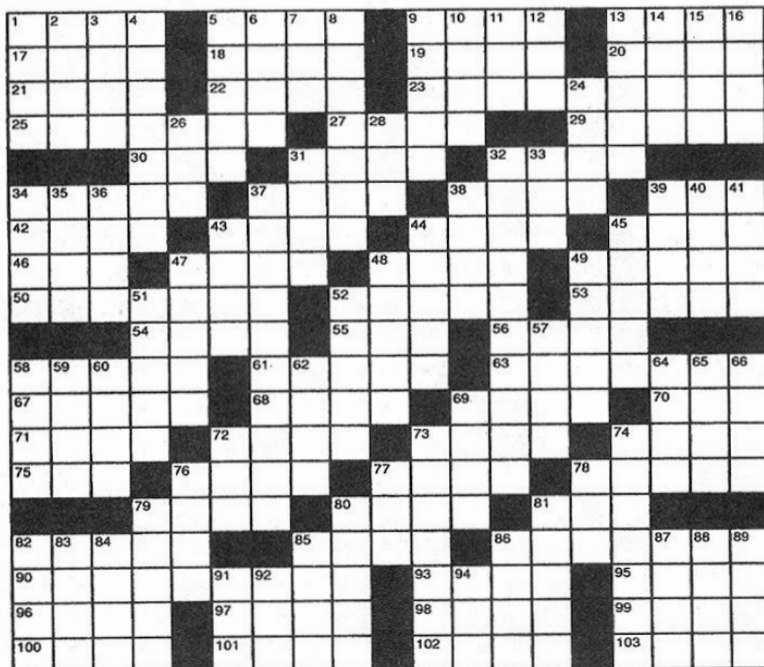
DOWN

43. Water
44. River to the Rhine
45. Scoop
46. Expert
47. Sorority, e.g.
48. Seaweed
49. Actress Irene
50. Atlantic islands
52. Concede
53. Cross
54. Stuff
55. Scare sound
56. Ring
58. Gap
61. Concerning
63. Highbrow
67. Mistake
68. Actor Foxx
69. Lady Jane
70. Pub brew
71. Itsy
72. Linger
73. Paris station
74. Region
75. Use coloring
76. Staff

77. Elevated dwelling
78. Lubricated
79. Augur
80. Globule
81. Prohibit
82. Nautical term
85. Winged
86. Crocus
90. Citrus fruit
93. Federal agent
95. Burden
96. Woodwind
97. Court proceedings
98. Speck
99. Elevator man
100. Whimper
101. Glimpse
102. Biblical brother
103. Desire

DOWN

1. Motor minimum speed
2. Feminine salutation
3. Medicinal plant
4. Garble
5. Burn with steam
6. Clutch
7. Physician's group: abbr.



8. Venetian transport
9. Bacteria
10. Desire
11. Greek letter
12. "What's up, ___?"
13. Improvise
14. Honey beverage
15. Better half
16. Spread
24. Egg
26. Emmet
28. Frigid
31. Botch
32. Shortcake fruit
33. Born
34. Seize
35. Ornamental fabric
36. Unique person
37. Beryl
38. "Othello" villain
39. Actress Turner
40. "___ Misbehavin'"
41. Mirth
43. Actor Alan
44. Apportion
45. Scottish town
47. Healer
48. Audibly
49. Smoky
51. Genuine thing, slangily
52. Dwelling
57. Double curve
58. Flower starter
59. Victim
60. English composer
62. Anglo-Saxon scholar
64. Nobleman
65. Nautical term
66. Departed
69. Outfit
72. Rotten
73. Atlanta's state
74. Wind motion
76. Arrive
77. ___ mode
78. Clod
79. Hard roll
80. Dreary
81. Trite
82. Particle
83. Newborn
84. Sufficient, poetically
85. Poker start
86. Fill
87. Pro ___
88. Norse god
89. Bird's home
91. Knock
92. Freeze
94. Crowd

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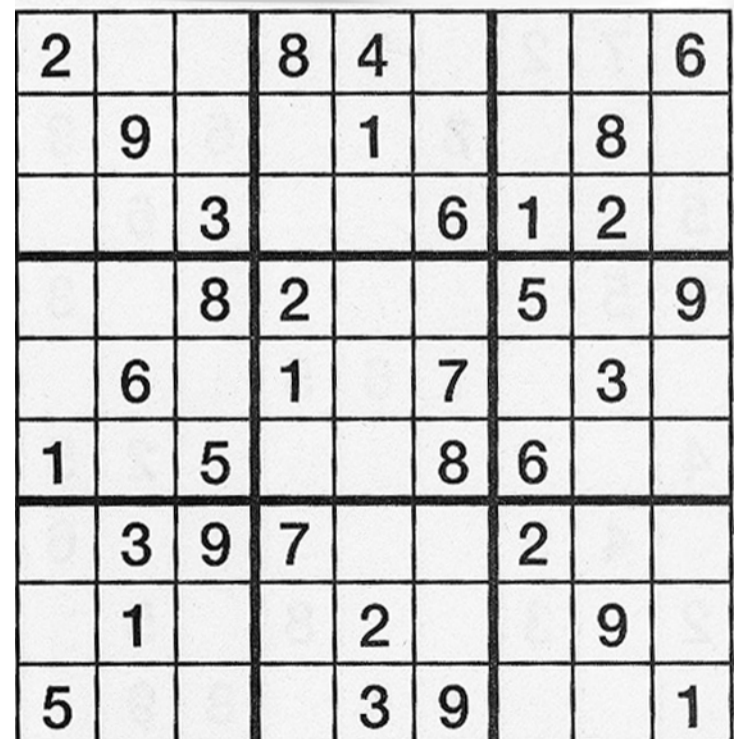
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

1	9	2	6	8	7	3	5	4
8	6	5	9	2	4	1	7	3
4	3	7	1	8	2	6	9	5
2	7	9	8	6	5	9	2	1
3	8	2	4	9	1	7	6	5
6	1	5	7	9	2	8	3	4
9	2	1	9	2	6	8	7	3
8	6	7	2	1	9	5	6	4
9	2	6	8	7	3	1	9	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
 A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
 In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance



NEW YORK CITY - A trader works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in New York City. Following continued worries over the economic outlook for Europe, China and the United States, the Dow Jones industrial average (INDU) was down 178 points in a preliminary tally yesterday. (AFP PHOTO)



GENEVA, Switzerland -- A model poses with a 24.78 carat fancy intense pink diamond, seen also in the background, during a Sotheby's auction yesterday in Geneva. The rare pink diamond mounted in a ring that comes from a private collection and is regarded as the most desirable and beautiful in the world was sold for a record 46.16 millions dollars, smashing preview auction records for the sale of any single diamond or jewel, Sotheby's said. The gemstone, rated among a type that accounts for just two percent of diamonds, was last seen on the market about 60 years ago when it was sold by legendary US jeweller Harry Winston. (AFP PHOTO)

Wall Street slumps amid China, European worries

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - US stocks nose-dived yesterday amid growing uneasiness over Europe's massive sovereign debt and China's efforts to tackle rising inflation.

Adding to the gloom was data showing a weak rise in US wholesale prices, while strong earnings reports from market heavyweights Wal-Mart and Home Depot were not enough to offset the downward trend.

The blue-chip Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 177.03 points (1.58 percent)

to 11,024.94 in closing trades. The S&P 500 index, a broader measure of the market, lost 19.34 points (1.61 percent) to 1,178.42.

The tech-rich Nasdaq slid 43.98 points (1.75 percent) to 2,469.84, giving back most of November's gains.

"The market focused on the prospects of higher interest rates in China and a bailout of banks in Ireland," said Wells Fargo Advisors analyst Scott Marcouiller.

Investors also followed with concern the eurozone's

struggle to deal with alarming levels of sovereign debt, especially in Ireland, amid growing speculation that the former Celtic Tiger nation could be bailed out.

European finance ministers were meeting in Brussels to grapple with a spreading debt crisis that had already brought Greece to its knees.

Markets also were rattled after the governor of China's central bank voiced unease at the country's growing inflation, increasing speculation

Beijing will raise interest rates.

A weaker than expected reading on US wholesale inflation revealed subdued inflationary pressures amid the feeble US recovery from recession.

The Labor Department reported that US wholesale prices rose a modest 0.4 percent for the third straight month in October, much weaker than the 0.8 percent rise expected by most analysts.

Eurozone vows to act to ensure its stability

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) - The eurozone will act in a "determined and coordinated" manner to ensure its stability, the head of the Eurogroup of finance ministers said yesterday in the wake of the Irish banking crisis.

"We will act in a determined and coordinated way if neces-

sary to ensure the stability of the eurozone," Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker told a news conference following talks centred on Ireland's troubles.

Juncker also welcomed the "willingness of Irish authorities to enter talks with the European Commission and the

IMF in order to determine any necessary support to face any market risk."

"The discussions that will take place between Ireland, the Commission, the ECB and the IMF will allow us to have at our disposal all the elements that we will need in case Ireland asks for aid," he said.

Gates pledges 500 million dollars to bring banking to poor

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The philanthropic organization set up by Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates and his wife Melinda Tuesday pledged 500 million dollars to help give the world's poorest access to financial services.

Melinda Gates announced the five-year pledge at the first ever Global Savings Forum in Seattle, which has drawn 200 global leaders in development, banking, technology and government, and a member of the Dutch royal family, Princess Maxima, for talks on the role of savings in the developing world.

Six grants totaling 40 million dollars, which are part of the 500-million-dollar package, were announced yesterday at the forum hosted by the Gates Foundation.

Several of the projects are aimed at finding ways to help the poor to save, using systems like branchless banking and mobile phones.

Many of the projects that will receive grants have been inspired by projects that are already up and running in developing countries, said Bob Christen, director of financial services for the poor at the Gates Foundation.

He cited the story of a 17-year-old who sells snacks at a street market in Kenya and who is trying to save money to pay for his education.

"His inventory is about two, three dollars a day, and he is saving 100 shillings a day, which is a little over a dollar. He has a goal to save 20,000 shillings," Christen told AFP.

The young Kenyan uses the east African country's M-PESA mobile banking system "because how else could someone save a dollar a day?" said Christen.

Mobile banking allows banks to sidestep the transaction costs that make small-balance accounts unprofitable for them.

Clients like the teenage Kenyan snack vendor, meanwhile, overcome the sometimes costly barrier of getting to a bank to deposit their savings.

"If someone like this Kenyan kid is going to save a dollar a day he sure isn't going to spend a dollar to get to the bank to deposit his savings, and the bank doesn't want him there because it costs them a dollar just to have him standing there," said Christen.

Among the grantees receiving a share of the funds announced by the Gates Foundation yesterday is Vodacom Tanzania's M-PESA program, which will receive nearly five million dollars to bring mobile money services that are so successful in Kenya to two million people in neighboring Tanzania.

Another grantee, ShoreBank International, will build a mobile money platform for poor Bangladeshis.

The company aims within five years to bring more than 17 million poor people into the formal financial system for the first time.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

G	O	A	T	O	L	D	P	T	A
A	R	L	O	M	O	O	T	H	A
S	T	A	R	L	I	N	G	S	E
T	A	T	W	A	R	A	N	D	
L	A	C	E	S	P	O	R	E	S
O	R	O	T	R	I	O	B	A	T
B	U	R	N	E	N	D	S	N	A
E	M	M	A	I	T	S	A	T	R
O	P	E	N	S	P	E	S	O	S
G	E	R	A	L	D	A	I	R	
E	R	A	M	E	R	G	A	N	S
T	I	N	S	E	A	T	E	A	S
S	E	T	R	N	S	S	P	E	D

The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture

into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"- "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa was in the mood to prepare.

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals--



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a

very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive

land life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a



amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the is-

modest fee. Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



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Christina Aguilera gets Hollywood star



LOS ANGELES, California (AFP) – Grammy-winning US pop singer Christina Aguilera was honored with a star on Hollywood's celebrity Walk of Fame, barely a week before her feature film debut.

The star, the 2,423rd on the famous sidewalk roll call of celebrities past and present, was unveiled on Monday, nine days before her acting skills go on display when "Burlesque" hits the silver screen, co-star-

ring Cher.

"As a young girl in Pittsburgh, I often imagined what it would be like to come to Hollywood and make it as a performer," the 29-year-old told screaming fans on Hollywood Boulevard.

"We would go from audition to audition and I would sing anthem after anthem ... hoping one day it would all pay off. Standing here at this moment I know that it has paid off in spades," she added.

Aguilera won the first of her four Grammys in 1999 as best new artist, followed by best pop collaboration in 2001, and best female pop vocal performance in 2003 and 2006.

In "Burlesque," she plays a small-town girl who makes her way to a Los Angeles burlesque club to pursue her dreams. Aguilera also wrote and recorded four new songs for the musical's soundtrack.

At a weekend presentation of the film Aguilera told AFP: "I've always been a hard worker.

"I like to learn from others and having new challenges, and I think that's what happening to me now in my life. Many changes, a movie, a new album, and a star in Hollywood -- many changes.

Aguilera and her husband Jordan Bratman separated, five years after their 2005 wedding, although there were no divorce plans, People magazine reported.

Prince William to marry Kate Middleton next year

LONDON, England (AFP) – Britain's Prince William will marry long-term girlfriend Kate Middleton next year, royal officials announced yesterday, ending feverish speculation about when the second-in-line to the throne would wed.

William, 28, the eldest son of heir to the throne Prince Charles and the late Princess Diana, and Middleton, also 28, became engaged in October while on holiday in Kenya, said Clarence House, Charles' official residence.

"The Prince of Wales is delighted to announce the engagement of Prince William to Miss Catherine Middleton. The wedding will take place in the spring or summer of 2011 in London," said the statement.



"whole country will be wishing them every happiness."

The couple's wedding will come a year before the queen marks her diamond jubilee -- or 60 years on the throne -- and London hosts the 2012 Olympics.

Middleton -- the daughter of self-made millionaires -- and William met in 2001 at St Andrews University in Scotland where they were both studying art history, and they lived together in a shared house.

They broke up briefly in 2007 but got back together again.

Speculation about the royal nuptials reached fever pitch following the news earlier this month that Middleton's

parents, Michael and Carole, had joined a private shooting party at Charles' private residence in Scotland.

The wedding will come 30 years after Charles and Diana married in what was billed at the time as a fairytale wedding and which drew crowds of hundreds of thousands onto the streets of London. The couple divorced in 1996.

Middleton's parents are a

former airline pilot and air stewardess -- a fact reportedly mocked by some of William's aristocratic friends -- who went on to make their fortune in the children's party business.

The princess-to-be, who is six months older than William, has in recent years been employed by the family business, Party Pieces, after an initial foray into the working world in London caused her to be hounded by press photographers.

The intense spotlight on the young woman drew comparisons to Diana.

While pursuing his military career, Prince William still takes time out for royal en-



"Further details about the wedding will be announced in due course.

"Prince William and Miss Middleton became engaged in October during a private holiday in Kenya. Prince William has informed the queen and other close members of his family.

"Prince William has also sought the permission of Miss Middleton's father.

"Following the marriage the couple will live in North Wales where Prince William will continue to serve with the Royal Air Force."

Prince William is currently serving as an RAF search and rescue pilot based on Anglesey in northwest Wales, after graduating in September following 18 months of training.

Queen Elizabeth II and her husband Prince Philip were "absolutely delighted" for the couple, Buckingham Palace said.

British Prime Minister David Cameron's spokeswoman said the premier was "delighted" and sent the couple his best wishes. Opposition leader Ed Miliband said the



gements.

He flew into Afghanistan on Sunday for a surprise visit to honour Britain's war dead, attending a ceremony at Camp Bastion in Helmand province, the home of the estimated 9,500 British troops deployed in the country.



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Vitali Klitschko ready to go '50-50' with Haye



LONDON (AFP) - Vitali Klitschko has offered to split the purse with David Haye in a bid to make their long-awaited world heavyweight unification title fight a reality.

Previous attempts to set-up a fight between Haye and Klitschko, or his younger brother Wladimir, that many boxing pundits believe is necessary for the credibility of a tainted heavyweight division have foundered on arguments over both payments and venues.

But Klitschko, a Ukrainian who is the World Boxing

Council (WBC) heavyweight champion said Monday he was ready to come to England to face Haye for a "fifty-fifty" purse split.

Haye, the World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight champion saw off fellow Englishman Audley Harrison inside three rounds in Manchester on Saturday in a title defence that saw both boxers warned at one stage for a lack of action.

"I'm ready any minute to sign a 50-50 contract," Klitschko told BBC Radio Five on Monday.

"We are both world champions so let's fight. Let's make the fight in the spring time - I'm ready, the question is for David Haye.

"David Haye is a great talker but the question is, is he a good fighter? If he is a good fighter he should sign the contract. I want to fight David Haye because my brother already has two world titles and I have just the one."

Wladimir Klitschko, holds the International Boxing Federation (IBF) and World Boxing Organisation (WBO)

heavyweight championship belts.

The Klitschko brothers have a longstanding agreement never to fight one another, leaving a fight between one of them and Haye as the most plausible heavyweight championship bout on offer.

But the failure to come to an agreement with Haye has led to a series of lacklustre title fights, of which Haye's lopsided encounter with Harrison was only the most recent.

Now the Klitschkos are both set to meet Britain's Dereck Chisora, with Wladimir to face the previously little thought of Londoner in December.

Vitali, yet to confirm his next opponent after overwhelming Shannon Briggs of the United States in October, wants to make sure he fights Haye before his brother because otherwise he won't have a credible challenger for his title.

"I want to fight David Haye because after he has fought Wladimir I will not have an opponent any more. Wladimir will kill him. He knocks everyone out badly. That is why I want to fight David Haye."

Caribbean beckons for county duo

LONDON (AFP) - English domestic Twenty20 champions Hampshire and runners-up Somerset will take part in the Caribbean T20 in the New Year it was announced on Tuesday.

The 2011 Caribbean T20, being held from January 10-23, involves Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, Windward Islands and Combined Campuses and Colleges as well as Hampshire and Somerset.

First round matches will take place at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Grounds in Antigua, with the tournament concluding at the Kensington Oval in Barbados.

The inaugural Caribbean

T20 took place in July and was won by Guyana.

Hampshire, on their own Rose Bowl ground, beat Somerset in a thrilling English Twenty20 final in August by virtue of losing fewer wickets.

Ernest Hilare, chief executive of the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB), said: "The WICB is delighted to have again partnered with the ECB (England and Wales Cricket Board) on this progressive initiative.

"The participation of the two top Friends Provident t20 teams in CT20 will certainly enhance the tournament and heighten the excitement.

"We look forward to keen contests between our

Caribbean teams and Hampshire and Somerset and look forward to welcoming English fans to the fun and excitement of Caribbean style T20 cricket."

Steve Elworthy, the ECB's communications director, said: "The Caribbean T20 rewards Hampshire Royals and Somerset for their hard work throughout the 2010 Friends Provident t20 campaign.

"It provides an excellent opportunity for both teams to experience playing in a different environment and test themselves against strong opposition," the former South Africa seamer added.

Both Hampshire and Somerset have longstanding links to Caribbean cricket.

Barbados and West Indies greats Gordon Greenidge and Malcolm Marshall both spent several seasons with Hampshire, a team for whom batsmen Roy Marshall and Danny Livingstone played in the 1960s and 1970s.

Meanwhile batting hero Richards and fast bowler Joel Garner were both members of the successful Somerset sides of the late 1970s and early 1980s.



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Europeans vie for top spot in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AFP) - The race to be crowned Europe's top golfer enters the home straight this week with reputations as well as prize money at stake in the 2.5 million dollar UBS Hong Kong Open.

The tournament is the penultimate event of the European year, before the top 60 head to the season's glittering finale, the 7.5 million dollar Dubai World Championship.

Northern Ireland's Graeme McDowell, in second place, will look to steal a march on Race to Dubai leader and PGA Championship winner Martin Kaymer in his fourth tournament appearance in a row, with Kaymer having decided to skip Hong Kong.

US Open champion McDowell cut the gap by 225,000 dollars on Germany's Kaymer at the top of the European money list with his joint third place at the Singapore Open.

Kaymer, who could only manage 10th in the event won by Australia's Adam Scott, now leads the money list by 500,000 dollars.

Only Kaymer and McDowell can now win the Race. Defending champion Lee Westwood, who lies third, is too far back having chosen to miss Hong Kong.

"Of course, this week is very important to me, it's important that I get as close as I possibly can going into Dubai next week and... with Martin not being here this week, it's an opportunity to put some more numbers on the board," McDowell said.

"The game's in good shape coming off the back of a decent week in Singapore and I'm very much looking forward to the week."

The Race to Dubai is not just about the top end, however -- the chance to play in the spectacular showdown in Dubai sees players go to great lengths to get on the

flight.

Denmark's Soren Hansen currently occupies 60th place in the Race to Dubai. His aim this week will be to try and secure his spot but his two closest pursuers, James Morrison and Shane Lowry, are also in the Hong Kong field and they'll be striving to leapfrog the former Ryder Cup player.

Colin Montgomerie and Miguel Angel Jimenez lead the cast of former European champions in Hong Kong.

Montgomerie, Europe's victorious Ryder Cup Captain, and Jimenez, one of Monty's star men in the unforgettable victory over the United States at the Celtic Manor, will be joined by defending Hong Kong champion Gregory Bourdy.

Montgomerie won in Hong Kong in 2005, the year after Jimenez secured his first victory at Fanling, with the Spaniard's second championship coming in 2007.

Bourdy finished ahead of Rory McIlroy last year to become the first Frenchman to win the event since its inception in 1959.

"Hopefully the crowd will be behind me this week as I think it's going to be difficult," Bourdy said. "I have good memories and I had a wonderful week last year and I will try to play the same game as last year and show my best game to the fans."

"I love this place, I love this tournament and when we see all the big names on the trophy, I am very proud to see mine and I will try my best to repeat what I did last year."

McIlroy, who has finished runner-up in Hong Kong for the last two years, said he was hoping it was third time lucky.

"I love the golf course, I love Hong Kong and I love coming back here. It's my fourth Hong Kong Open but I've been here a few more times than that."



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Phillies' Halladay wins Cy Young award



Roy Halladay

NEW YORK (AFP) - Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Roy Halladay was named Tuesday as the unanimous winner of Major League Baseball's National League Cy Young Award for a year that included 21 triumphs and a perfect game.

The 33-year-old right-hander became the fifth pitcher to have won a Cy Young award in both the Na-

tional and American leagues, having also taken the honor with the Toronto Blue Jays in 2003.

Halladay was given all 32 first-place votes in a media balloting. Adam Wainwright of St. Louis was second with Colorado's Ubaldo Jimenez third. Halladay became the 13th unanimous choice in 44 years of Cy Young voting.

In addition to leading the National League in victories and finishing with a 21-10 record with a 2.44 earned-run average over 33 starts, Halladay hurled the 20th perfect game in Major League Base-

ball history on May 29 at Florida.

Halladay led the major leagues by pitching 250 2/3 innings, four shutouts and nine complete games in his first season with Philadelphia after being traded from Toronto last December.

Votes were submitted after the regular season, so Halladay's historic no-hitter in his playoff debut on October 6 against Cincinnati, only the second no-hit game in major league playoff history, was not a factor in consideration.

The only other pitchers to win Cy Young Awards in both leagues were Randy Johnson, Roger Clemens, Gaylord Perry and Pedro Martinez.

US to kick off 2011 against Chile

CHICAGO (AFP) - Chile will visit the United States for a January 22 football friendly between 2010 World Cup qualifiers that serves as the conclusion to the Americans' training camp, US Soccer announced Monday.

The Chileans own a 4-3 with one drawn edge in the all-time rivalry, which will resume in suburban Los Angeles in the first US match of 2011 and the first early tune-up for North America's Gold Cup tournament in June.

"We're excited to play a team of Chile's caliber to start the year," said US coach

Bob Bradley. "We are focused on getting ready for the Gold Cup next summer, and this game provides a good start for our preparations as we assess the pool for 2011 and beyond."

US men are 8-1-1 in matches at the Carson, California, stadium complex and have won three times in a row over the Chileans, who were ousted by Brazil in the round of 16 at the World Cup in South Africa.

The Americans were also eliminated in the round of 16 at the World Cup, falling to Ghana.

Injured Yi remains sidelined for Wizards

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Injured Chinese forward Yi Jianlian was benched by the Washington Wizards for Tuesday's home game against Toronto because of a bruised right knee suffered against Chicago in a road loss.

In a posting on the NBA team's website, the Wizards said that 7-footer Yi and top draft pick John Wall would not play against the Raptors. Wall is out with a left foot sprain also suffered in the 103-96 loss Saturday to the Bulls.

Yi is averaging 8.0 points, 3.3 rebounds and 1.7 blocked shots a game while shooting 41 percent from the field in seven appearances this season, all coming off the bench.

Last week, Yi scored 13 points, grabbed seven rebounds and matched his NBA career high with four blocked shots in a 98-91 triumph over Houston in the same game where Chinese superstar Yao Ming of the Rockets suffered a sprained left ankle.

Steelers show no sentiment, boot Reed out



Steelers' Jeff Reed looks down as he leaves the field after missing a 49-yard field goal on Oct. 3, 2010

PITTSBURGH (AFP) - Jeff Reed, a kicker who helped the Pittsburgh Steelers win two Super Bowls, was given the boot on Tuesday after eight years with the National Football League club.

The 31-year-old was released after missing seven of his 22 field goal attempts this season, including 4-of-9 attempts at home and all four between 40 and 49 yards - an erratic showing with nearly as many misses as in 2008

and 2009 combined.

Canadian-born Shaun Suisham, a former Washington Redskins and Dallas Cowboys kicker, was signed to replace Reed, who began the season as one of the 10 most accurate kickers in NFL history.

Reed went 8-for-8 in field goal kicks during the playoff runs that included the 2006 and 2009 Super Bowls and was 27-for-31 last year, but missed twice in a season-opening 15-9 win over Atlanta as well as a 17-14 loss to Baltimore last month.

"We're very respectful of the cumulative body of work by Jeff here, but at this time we felt it was appropriate to make a change," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said.

Reed has a career 204-of-249 field goal accuracy rate but had missed too many big kicks for the Steelers, 6-3, when it mattered most.

"I've missed some important kicks," Reed said. "It's sports. It's not an excuse, but it's life."

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More legal headaches loom for Mayweather

LAS VEGAS (AFP) - Unbeaten boxer Floyd Mayweather, already facing criminal charges that could put him behind bars for 34 years, is in trouble again after a confrontation involving a security guard.

Police said Tuesday that the guard claimed May-

weather poked him in the face several times and threatened him over parking violations outside Mayweather's home, part of an ongoing dispute with Mayweather and a homeowners association.

Mayweather, 33, faces charges of felony robbery, coercion and grand larceny as

well as misdemeanor domestic battery and harassment charges in connection with a September 9 dispute involving a former girlfriend who is the mother of his two sons. He faces an arraignment in that case on January 24.

Murray to face Federer in Finals group

LONDON (AFP) - Britain's Andy Murray will face Roger Federer in the group stages of the ATP World Tour Finals in London, it was announced here on Tuesday.

The 23-year-old Murray has got the better of the Swiss star in their last two meetings, both times winning in straight sets to win Masters titles in Toronto and Shanghai.

But he lost to Federer in the Australian Open final in January, a defeat that left Murray still searching for a first 'grand slam' title.

Also drawn in Group B alongside Federer and Murray, who dropped down to fifth in the world rankings

after Robin Soderling won the Paris Masters last week, were Soderling and David Ferrer.

Group A will be contested by Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic, Tomas Berdych and Andy Roddick.

Last year Murray missed out on a semi-final spot by one game to Juan Martin del Potro.

The Argentinian was not in this year's draw, having missed most of the season with a wrist injury while a similar problem effectively prevented Nikolay Davydenko from defending his title.

This year's tournament starts on Sunday.

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